

MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

New Year Brings Changes and New Opportunities



Doug Schulze
City Manager

City Staff are adjusting to a few changes and look forward to new opportunities.

On January 9, Lucius Biglow and James Lawrence were sworn in as Medina's newest City Council Members. During the November General Election, Lucius Biglow and Jim Lawrence were elected to the Council, filling the positions of Mary Odermat and Todd Nunn, who both chose not to seek second terms. Also sworn in for new terms were Council members Drew Blazey and Robert Rudolph, both elected to a second four-year term on the Council. The City Council then elected Miles Adam to a two-year term as Mayor. Miles was first appointed to the Council in August 2003 to complete the term of Paul Demitriades following his resignation. Miles was elected to a full four-year term on the Council in November 2003.

Bob Rudolph was elected by the Council to serve as Deputy Mayor. The Deputy Mayor presides over Council meetings and other ceremonial events when the Mayor is unable to attend. Bob has been a tireless advocate for the City and its residents. The City staff and I look forward to working with Mayor Adam, Deputy Mayor Rudolph and the members of the City Council.

The City Council will conduct a goal-setting retreat on March 4, 2006, which will be used to identify policy issues, goals and vision for the new Council. During the past ten years, the City Councils have conducted retreats approximately once every two years. Retreat outcomes will be posted on the City of Medina website and a summary report will be available at City Hall a few weeks after the retreat.

Joseph Gellings, Director of Development Services, and I have spent the past two months planning a process to identify specific problems and potential improvements to the City's permit procedures, policies and requirements. During the next two to three months, stakeholders will be invited to participate in focus group discussions with City staff to provide input and feedback regarding their experiences with the City of Medina as well as other permitting agencies. Our goal is to begin making changes that will improve the process immediately.

The City of Medina has a great staff team and a City Council that is committed to providing excellent service to the community. If we can be of assistance, please let us know. As always, I welcome your questions and comments about City issues.

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